

COVINGTON & BURLING

ORIGINAL

1201 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2401 NEW YORK  
TEL 202.662.6000 LONDON  
FAX 202.662.6291 BRUSSELS  
WWW.COV.COM SAN FRANCISCO

GERARD J. WALDRON  
TEL 202.662.5360  
FAX 202.778.5360  
GWALDRON@COV.COM

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED  
RECEIVED

October 5, 2000

OCT 5 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
12th Street Lobby  
Counter TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Applications Of America Online, Inc., and Time Warner Inc.  
for Transfers of Control (CS Docket No. 00-30)  
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Ms. Salas:

This letter is to inform the Commission that on October 4, 2000, Ross Bagully from CMGI, Johnny Scarborough, Jr. from iCAST, Marilyn Cade from AT&T, Rick Beckner from Sidley & Austin, and the undersigned as counsel to Microsoft, met with Deborah Lathen, Sherille Ismail and Darryl Cooper with the Cable Services Bureau, Gerald Faulhaber, chief economist, Office of Plans and Policy, and David Farber, chief technologist, Office of Engineering and Technology, and Messrs. Bagully, Scarborough and Waldron met with Jay Friedman, legal adviser to Commissioner Tristani and Karen Onyeije, legal advisor to Chairman Kennard, to discuss Instant Messaging ("IM") in the context of the above-captioned merger. Specifically, we discussed the nature of the applications that depend on IM as a platform, the jurisdictional basis for Commission action, including the public interest requirement, the nature of competition in the IM market and how AOL's dominant position will not be altered unless interoperability is achieved, and evidence from web sites, such as [www.zdnet.com](http://www.zdnet.com) (representative copies of which are attached) showing that a number of persons on their own have found ICQ and AIM interoperable.

No. of Copies rec'd  
List A B C D E

0+4

COVINGTON & BURLING

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
October 5, 2000  
Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerard J. Waldron".

Gerard J. Waldron

GJW/cad

cc: Ms. Karen Onyeije  
Mr. Jay Friedman  
Ms. Deborah Lathen  
Ms. Royce Dickens  
Ms. Linda Senecal  
Mr. Darryl Cooper  
Ms. Sherille Ismail  
Mr. Gerald Faulhaber  
Mr. David Farber

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- [IPO News And Analysis](#)
- [October's Best Buys](#)
- [Free Downloads](#)

[ZDNet](#) > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Search For:

[News](#)



- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**  
**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

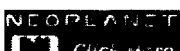
**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)



## TALKBACK

Name: [Kirth Gersen](#)  
 Email: [gersen@netzero.net](mailto:gersen@netzero.net)  
 Location: [USA](#)  
 Occupation: [network engineer](#)

I logged in to AIM successfully using my UIN from ICQ as a username and my ICQ password. It works! Of course, ya have to import your buddy list and tell your friends to add your UIN screenname...

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE ▶](#)

Talkback:

[It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain](#)

[138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan](#)

[ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John](#)

[Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman](#)

[I wish this article had said HO... - Mikey](#)

[It's all good! Now I don't ha... - Hao](#)

[Guess it is time to quit using ... - Gary Russell](#)

[>they are going to get more SPA... - Daniel Patterson](#)

[Is this a surprise? AOL boug... - Eric Svetcov](#)

[A lot of users have multiple ac... - jeff tilak](#)

[138 Million - Not How about ma... - Minuteman](#)

[As CompuServe demonstrates, AOL... - Kurt](#)

[This is the SAME company who to... - J.C.](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- [IPO News And Analysis](#)
- [October's Best Buys](#)
- [Free Downloads](#)

[ZDNet](#) > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Search For:

News

GO

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**

**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)

**Best Buys**

## TALKBACK

Name: Max O'Drive  
 Email: [maxman69@hotmail.com](mailto:maxman69@hotmail.com)  
 Location: Ga  
 Occupation: IT Guy

Instructions.... Log onto AOL-IM using your ICQ number and password. Add a buddy via the ICQ number. Voila.. Now, go rename everything..

Interesting...

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE ▶](#)

**Talkback:**

[It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain](#)

[138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan](#)

[ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John](#)

[Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman](#)

[I wish this article had said HO... - Mikey](#)

[It's all good! Now I don't ha... - Hao](#)

[Guess it is time to quit using ... - Gary Russell](#)

[>they are going to get more SPA... - Daniel Patterson](#)

[Is this a surprise? AOL boug... - Eric Svetcov](#)

[A lot of users have multiple ac... - jeff tilak](#)

[138 Million - Not How about ma... - Minuteman](#)

[As CompuServe demonstrates, AOL... - Kurt](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- IPO News And Analysis
- October's Best Buys
- Free Downloads

ZDNet > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Search For:  [News](#) [eC](#) [Search Tips](#)  
[Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**  
**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**

**Need a  
faster PC?**

[www.crucial.com](http://www.crucial.com)

Advertisement

#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)

## TALKBACK

Name: Bryan  
 Location: Ohio  
 Occupation:

138 Million too high. Quite a few AIM people have ICQ. Nearly all of the AOL drones I know use ICQ to chat with there non-AOL buddies, and AIM for there AOL friends. The number is more like 80 Million, quite a few of those registered don't use it, or have multiple numbers(forgot there old when or changed computers).

The latest ICQ, available last week, offers Cell phone messageing and digital p;aging support. What's a little overhead for AIM?

Also, you will note that with ICQ, it's ALWAYS been a "Free Beta". Remember that in the future. Sometime down the road, AIM and ICQ will merge, then there will be a fee. The Fee is what will keep Pow-Wow and MSN Messenger out of the networks. It will keep them out, but alienate most users. AOL will recant eventually, just wait. It's too big a revenue stream to ignore. Just a few dollars.....around \$10 and it's an easy Billion dollars for something that already is in place.....ponder that.

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE ▶](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)



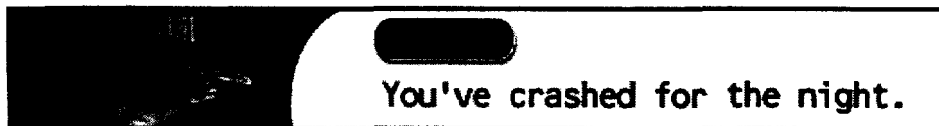
Talkback:

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- [IPO News And Analysis](#)
- [October's Best Buys](#)
- [Free Downloads](#)

[ZDNet](#) > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Search For:

[News](#)

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**

**Business**

**Commentary**

**Computing**

**eCrime, Law & You**

**International**

**Internet**

**Investor**

**Mac/Apple**

**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**

**News Briefs**

**News Archive**

**News Specials**

**Contact us**

**Corrections**

**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)

[Inter@ctive](#)

[Week](#)

[MSNBC News](#)

[eWEEK](#)

[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)

[ZDNet UK](#)

[ZDNet Australia](#)

[ZDNet France](#)

[ZDNet Germany](#)

[ZDNet Japan](#)

[ZDNet China](#)

#### Best Buys

## TALKBACK

Name: J.C.

Email: [JCPayne1@Hotmail12345.com](mailto:JCPayne1@Hotmail12345.com)

Location: Boston, MA

Occupation: Student

This is the SAME company who told the FCC that any inter-operabilty between IMs was "A year away???" AOL lied again to the FCC folks! I don't think a company that goes on the lying-fritz every few months should be able to merge and lock the american media, internet, and now messaging industries. I say open IM protocols now...

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE ▶](#)

#### Talkback:

It's what ICQ users have been a... - [Madoc Owain](#)

138 Million too high. Quite a ... - [Bryan](#)

ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - [John](#)

Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - [Daryl Putman](#)

I wish this article had said HO... - [Mikey](#)

It's all good! Now I don't ha... - [Hao](#)

Guess it is time to quit using ... - [Gary Russell](#)

>they are going to get more SPA... - [Daniel Patterson](#)

Is this a surprise? AOL boug... - [Eric Svetcov](#)

A lot of users have multiple ac... - [jeff tilak](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- IPO News And Analysis
- October's Best Buys
- Free Downloads

ZDNet > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Search For:

News

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**

**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)

## TALKBACK

Name: Brandon Watkins  
 Email: [brandonw@netscape.net](mailto:brandonw@netscape.net)  
 Location: Michigan  
 Occupation: photographer

Having used every IM out there, I can say that AIM and ICQ (two I currently still use) each have significant merits. AOL wouldn't be able to merge the two if they wanted to. However, by demonstrating that they can make ICQ and AIM interoperable, they are taking a step towards interoperability among all IM's. This is good and should be applauded. If integration were so easy, the rest of the industry would have figured it out 6 months ago.

Note on Odigo: it's impressive, in it's combination of buddy lists, though I have so much trouble connecting to Yahoo! Messenger service with it I gave up. (Any assistance on that would be appreciated!).

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE ▶](#)

#### Talkback:

[It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain](#)

[138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan](#)

[ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John](#)

[Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... [CHECK IT OUT!](#)**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- IPO News And Analysis
- October's Best Buys
- Free Downloads

ZDNet > Tech News > **Talkback**



Search For:

News

GO

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**  
**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**

**Need a  
faster PC?**

[www.crucial.com](http://www.crucial.com)

Advertisement

#### Related Sites

**AnchorDesk**  
**Inter@ctive**  
**Week**  
**MSNBC News**  
**eWEEK**  
**Sm@rt Partner**

**ZDNet Asia**  
**ZDNet UK**  
**ZDNet Australia**  
**ZDNet France**  
**ZDNet Germany**  
**ZDNet Japan**  
**ZDNet China**

**Best Buys**

## TALKBACK

Name: Mike Pulsifer  
 Email:  
 Location: Martinsburg, WV  
 Occupation: webmaster -  
[www.freewebmag.com](http://www.freewebmag.com)

For you AOL lackeys, explain why it is good that I have to run AIM, ICQ, MSN Messenger, and Yahoo Messenger (yes, all of them), just to stay in contact with my friends? AIM and ICQ add A LOT of overhead, more overhead than should be required by an instant messenger. But then, you lackeys think that's good...

...give me a friggin' break (and a standard IM protocol so I can stick with just yahoo messenger.

Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"

◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE

NEXT MESSAGE ▶

#### Talkback:

It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain

138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan

ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John

Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman

I wish this article had said HO... - Mikey

It's all good! Now I don't ha... - Hao

Guess it is time to quit using ... - Gary Russell

>they are going to get more SPA... - Daniel Patterson

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)



[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



ZDNet > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**

- [IPO News And Analysis](#)
- [October's Best Buys](#)
- [Free Downloads](#)



Search For:

News

GO

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**  
**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)

need a new  
computer?

## TALKBACK

Name: Andrew Goodman  
 Email: [zdpost@page-zero.com](mailto:zdpost@page-zero.com)  
 Location: Toronto  
 Occupation: Editor, Traffick.com

This makes eminent sense for the end user. The next logical step is to link MSN Messenger, AOL IM, ICQ, and Yahoo! Messenger all together. Then everyone will be happy.

Doesn't it just make sense? Isn't email an open standard? Browsing the web (more or less)?

AOL, that's a small concession for being cleared to create such a gigantic media monopoly. It's time to give in on this one...

[Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"](#)

[< PREVIOUS MESSAGE](#)

[NEXT MESSAGE >](#)

#### Talkback:

[It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain](#)  
[138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan](#)  
[ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John](#)  
[Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman](#)  
[I wish this article had said HO... - Mikey](#)  
[It's all good! Now I don't ha... - Hao](#)  
[Guess it is time to quit using ... - Gary Russell](#)  
[>they are going to get more SPA... - Daniel Patterson](#)

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... [CHECK IT OUT!](#)

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

[Cameras](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Shop](#) | [Business](#) | [Help](#) | [News](#) | [Electronics](#) | [GameSpot](#) | [Tech Life](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Developer](#)



- IPO News And Analysis
- October's Best Buys
- Free Downloads

ZDNet > [Tech News](#) > **Talkback**



Audio  
Software  
Notebooks

Desktop Systems  
Digital Cameras  
Printers/Scanners



Search For:

News

- [Search Tips](#)
- [Power Search](#)

#### SECTIONS

**Page One**  
**Business**  
**Commentary**  
**Computing**  
**eCrime, Law & You**  
**International**  
**Internet**  
**Investor**  
**Mac/Apple**  
**TalkBack Central**

**Headline Scan**  
**News Briefs**  
**News Archive**  
**News Specials**

**Contact us**  
**Corrections**  
**Custom News**



#### Related Sites

[AnchorDesk](#)  
[Inter@ctive](#)  
[Week](#)  
[MSNBC News](#)  
[eWEEK](#)  
[Sm@rt Partner](#)

[ZDNet Asia](#)  
[ZDNet UK](#)  
[ZDNet Australia](#)  
[ZDNet France](#)  
[ZDNet Germany](#)  
[ZDNet Japan](#)  
[ZDNet China](#)



## TALKBACK

Name: Rick Langdon  
Location: Florida  
Occupation: Retired / Personal WebMaster

ICQ/AIM - Read all about it

at

<http://members.tripod.com/~RickinBham/RLicqList3.htm>

I put this page together as AOL was in process of buying out Mirabilis/ICQ. It appears that most of the misgivings that I had about the buyout by AOL are or have come true.

SO FAR - ICQ has not been "dumbed down" or "corrupted" to any great extent EXCEPT in the area of security (read email address security & SPAM). As stated on this page, I have kept track of SPAM received pre and post aquisition ....

"After leaving AOL in September '96, and signing on with AT&T Worldnet, I have tracked and stored all unsolicited

(SPAM) email that I've received. Fortunately it has not been "to" extensive - "0" from 10-96 thru 06-97 - and 76

pieces between 06-29-97 and 06-01-98."

Currently, now two years after AOL's aquisition of all user data registered with ICQ ... my SPAM load ranges between 30 and 40 pieces per day!!

#### TALKBACK CENTRAL

**A PAGE FOR YOU AND YOUR VIEWS ... CHECK IT OUT!**

- [Getting cozy with Microsoft](#)
- [Platform rivalries](#)
- [The third wave of network attacks](#)

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

[Create a private club](#)  
[Join a discussion](#)  
[Open a free e-mail account](#)  
[Organize a calendar](#)  
[Ask tech questions](#)  
[Chat with experts](#)  
[Join group buys](#)  
[Share photos online](#)  
[Get the instant message](#)

So much for AOL's "concern" for user security! This is why I left AOL in the first place and may be the reason (although I don't want to ... we have "a TON of time invested in our ICQ USERS List) for leaving ICQ

Hello Tribal Voice / PowWow ... maybe?

Back to "AOL quietly linking AIM, ICQ"

◀ PREVIOUS MESSAGE

NEXT MESSAGE ▶

**Talkback:**

It's what ICQ users have been a... - Madoc Owain

138 Million too high. Quite a ... - Bryan

ICQ/AIM will always be free for... - John

Come on ZD, I posted this to ta... - Daryl Putman

I wish this article had said HO... - Mikey

It's all good! Now I don't ha... - Hao

Guess it is time to quit using ... - Gary Russell

>they are going to get more SPA... - Daniel Patterson

Is this a surprise? AOL boug... - Eric Svetcov

A lot of users have multiple ac... - jeff tilak

138 Million - Not How about ma... - Minuteman

As CompuServe demonstrates, AOL... - Kurt

This is the SAME company who to... - J.C.

Odigo - the way of the future. ... - Raeon Roulston

"AIM users tend to be less savv... - Leslie Richardson

ICQ=yes. AIM=no thanks. If AOL... - David Heier

Wait a minute! Why so negative?... - Alex

AOL did not create AIM eleven y... - Christopher Ross

AOL and security in the same se... - Richard Eiken

This makes eminent sense for th... - Andrew Goodman

Sure you can add non icq contac... - Jim Gregory

Instructions.... Log onto AOL-... - Max O'Drive

Having used every IM out there,... - Brandon Watkins

AOL isn't trying to protect you... - Larry

The almighty advertisemt bandwa... - john jedik

If MS can change protocols to s... - Al

Between the three "main" instan... - Virginia G.